

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, Black History Month will be celebrated throughout the Nation during February; and,

WHEREAS, South Dakota's Black Professional, Entrepreneurial, Fraternal, Cultural, Religious, Political and Community-based Organizations join their fellow citizens throughout the nation to hold appropriate Observances; and,

WHEREAS, Black History Month encompasses many days commemorating milestones of Freedom in our nation's history, including National Freedom Day, February 1, Date of Ratification of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution (abolishing slavery); the Birthdays of Abraham Lincoln, February 12; of Abolitionist-Orator Frederick Douglass, February 14; George Washington, February 22; Race Relations Sunday, February 16; and Brotherhood Week, February 16-22; and,

WHEREAS, Black History Month was promulgated in 1968 by Robert Starling Pritchard, Founder of the Panamerican/Panafrican Association, Inc., which administers the National/International Observance as an auspicious memorial to Dr. Carter Goodwin Woodson, Founder in 1926 of Negro History Week, administered by the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, also founded by the distinguished Black Scholar in 1915; and,

WHEREAS, Black History Month is of especial significance in fostering a spirit of cooperation between all segments of our multi-ethnic community, and in paying tribute to the vital role, past, present and future of our Black Community in the fields of business and commerce, government, science, education, religion and culture; and,

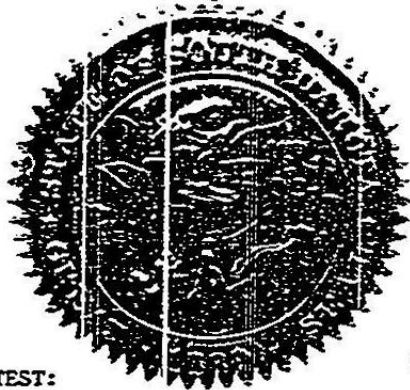
WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the citizens of this state join in an Observance which underscores the nation's inexorable drive towards the fulfillment of an equitable American society; and,

WHEREAS, All Afro-Americans who cherish the Ideal of a Democratic and Free Society built upon the principles of human equality join all their fellow American citizens in supporting freedom and the right to self-determination of the Black majority in an equitable multi-racial society in South Africa:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE S. MICKELSON, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the month of February, 1987, as

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

in South Dakota.



ATTEST:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Governor's Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-eighth Day of January, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Seven

GEORGE S. MICKELSON, GOVERNOR

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JOYCE HAZELCHINI, SECRETARY OF STATE